

STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the
year ended 31st December, 1945.

To the Chairman & Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1945.

During the year there has been a continuation in the good health of the community that characterised the previous year, 1944. There were 16 cases of Diphtheria of which 6 had been immunised. In these six patients the disease was mild, and in three of them the condition was not clinical diphtheria but was diagnosed by positive swab. The low incidence of Diphtheria affords ample justification for immunisation, which is now almost entirely carried out in the Infant Welfare Clinic. The fall in the percentage of immunised children (between the ages of 5 and 15) in the figures of this report compared with those of 1944 is due to the increased estimated official figure given for the child population of that age.

There were no Scarlet Fever cases notified in the district but two Urban cases were referred to Yarnfield from the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary. The incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough was very low, and there was no epidemic outbreak of Influenza.

The birth rate showed a fall compared with 1944, but it is still slightly higher than the rate for England and Wales. The death rate was slightly higher than the previous year.

Although no statistics can be given to support the view, it is evident that there was a high degree of physical perfection in the infant population of the district, and this was contributed to in no small measure by there being available for all infants a supply of milk and vitamins at low cost, and also by the facilities for education in the management of their children provided for those mothers who attended the Infant Welfare Clinic.

It has not been found possible to provide a Maternity Home in the district, but the domiciliary treatment of maternity cases has worked very well. Tribute can be given to the work of the District Nurses.

The water continued to be equal to the demands of the Town, and regular samples were taken, all of which were satisfactory. The age of the Steam Plant at No. 2. borehole is causing some concern as to the risk of breakdown.

The Sewage Works:- No further additions were carried out here during the year, and although the effluent continued to prove satisfactory increasing difficulties are being experienced with regard to the treatment of the sludge. A report is being obtained from a consultant as to the best method of treatment.

No new housing has been carried out during the past year by the Council and the need for houses is very great, considerable distress being caused by people living in overcrowded and insanitary conditions in the Town.

The early return of our Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector is anticipated. In his absence the Sanitary Inspector of the Rural District has continued to perform the necessary sanitary duties in the District.

I am indebted to Mr. Matthews and to the office staff, and to

Mr. Hawkes for their kind assistance and help to me during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

CLIFFORD ARTHUR.

(Acting) Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1945.

	Male		Female		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
New cases	1	3	1	1	6
Cases removed from the register through death	3		2		5

Statement of cases on the Tuberculosis Register 31st December, 1945.

	Male		Female		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
	20	16	28	20	84

Vital Statistics for the year 1945.

Births and Deaths.

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate	120	59	61
	Illegitimate	22	14	8
Still Births	Legitimate			
	Illegitimate			
Deaths of infants under one year.	Legitimate	6	3	3
	Illegitimate	4	3	1

DEATHS.

Deaths occurring in the district transferable to other areas	73
Deaths occurring out of the district transferable to Stone Urban District	23
Total deaths occurring in the Stone Urban District.	135

Deaths from certain specific diseases.

Cancer	13
Cardiac Diseases	51
Intracranial	14
Accidents	1
Suicide	2
Bronchitis	3
Tuberculosis	2
Pneumonia	3
Bronchiectasis	1
Nephritis	1
Diseases of the Nervous System	3
Influenza	1
Diabetes	4
Sylphilitic Diseases	2
Pernicious Anaemia	1
Senility	14
Infants, Congenital, Etc.	4
Aneurysm of Aorta	1

BIRTHS AND DEATHS RATE.

	England and Wales	Stone Urban District.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.1	19.4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000	0.46	-
Death Rate per 1,000	11.4	11.6
Death Rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births	46	70.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1945.

Measles	8
Whooping Cough	4
Diphtheria	16
Scarlet Fever	0
Pneumonia	4
Chicken Pox	7
Erysipelas	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Dysentery	1
Total	42

ADMISSIONS TO YARNFIELD ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

	From Stone Urban District	From Stone Rural District.
Diphtheria	15	14
Scarlet Fever	2	15
Erysipelas	-	1
Total	17	30

WATER SUPPLY.

Bacteriological examinations made. Number: 12 Result Satisfactory.

Chemical examination made: Number: 6 " "

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

	Age under 5	Age over 5 & under 15	Total
Number of children (including temporary residents) who completed the full course of immunisation during 1944.	132	7	139

	Under 5	Between 5 and 15.
Approximate estimated number of children in Stone Urban District on 31st December 1945	807	1,240
Percentage of child population considered to be immunised on 31st December, 1945.	90	64.9
Number of cases of Diphtheria in children under 15 years of age notified during the year 1945	0	13
Number of these notified cases in which the child was known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease	0	6
Number of deaths from Diphtheria of children under 15 years of age.	0	0

HOUSING.

1. Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936.
Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. 1
2. Proceedings under the Public Health Act.
Number of informal notices served requiring defects to be remedied. 4

Number of formal notices served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act. Nil
3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act.
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

